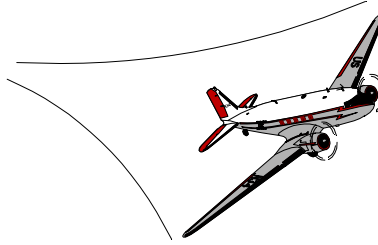


SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

Aircraft Certification Service
Washington, DC



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

CE-03-06
November 7, 2002

We post SAIBs on the internet at "av-info.faa.gov"

This is information only. Recommendations are not mandatory.

Introduction

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) advises you, owners and operators of SOCATA Rallye airplanes, of the issuance of SOCATA service letter SL 023 concerning Anjou Aeronautique safety belts.

Background

The FAA conducted a review of Anjou Aeronautique Service Bulletin (SB) 343-1-25-01 that applies to certain seat belts installed in the SOCATA TBM 700 airplane. This review was done as research for a safety recommendation concerning these seat belts. While the safety recommendation, concerning seat belt unlatching, did not result in the determination of an unsafe condition by the FAA, the DGAC of France, after reviewing the seat belt and its design, decided to issue a French AD to address the situation identified in the service bulletin. After concluding its evaluation of the safety recommendation, the FAA has decided that an Airworthiness Directive is not appropriate at this time, but has decided to issue an SAIB to inform owners and operators of the TBM700 about this situation. Subsequently, SOCATA issued service letters identifying certain affected belts that may be installed in Rallye airplanes.

Owners/operators of SOCATA Rallye airplanes should also note that there have been Airworthiness Directives issued against these airplanes concerning other safety issues.

Recommendations

The service bulletin identified in this document is not considered appropriate for AD action at this time; however, the FAA strongly suggests that all owners/operators of the SOCATA Rallye airplanes review their compliance with the service bulletin listed below.

EADS SOCATA Service Letter Number	MODEL	DATE	TITLE
SL 023	Seat belts of applicable model number installed in: Rallye airplanes	June, 2002	Anjou Aero Safety Belts.

The Service Bulletin Can Be Obtained From

SOCATA Aircraft, Groupe Aerospatiale, North Perry Airport, 7501 Pembroke Road, Pembroke Pines, FL 33023; phone: 954-893-1400; fax: 954-964-4141

or:

EADS SOCATA, Support Client/ Customer Support, Aerodrome Tarbes-Ossun-Lourdes, B. P. 930 - F65009 Tarbes, France; phone: 011-33-5 62 41 73 00; fax: 011-33-5 62 41 76 54

For Further Information Contact

Karl M. Schletzbaum, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Project Support Branch (ACE-112), Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust Street, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4146; fax: (816) 329-4090; email: karl.schletzbaum@faa.gov